

Electronian

A History of Adolphus R Duke, written by himself  
in Feb. 1933.

A history of A. R. Duke, a great man, by A. R. Duke  
a great historian.

I was born like most people are, on Nov. 16, 1882,  
at Heber City in an old house at the present site  
of my mother's home Lot — Block — Heber City  
Survey. (383 N. 200 E. Heber City, Utah) My father was  
Robert Duke, my mother was Anna Josephine Peterson.  
I was the oldest of eight children the others being  
J. Pratt Duke, Mabel R. Duke Jorgensen, Seymour B  
Duke and Sterling S. Duke (twins) Mina La Prele Duke  
Stevens, Jessie Duke Allen + Gerald-Boyd Duke.

I spent my younger days at home. My early  
playmates were David Horrocker, Lyman Duke, Hyrum  
+ Joseph Shanks, Wesley V. Duke, Joe Duke, Monroe  
Duke, Edward Tracy, Fred Hayes, John Tracy, Ruff  
+ Joe Murdock and Joe Bush Murdock; some of  
my earliest girl friends were Jessie Murdock Branson,  
Josephine Shanks, Verna Ohlweiler, Maud Clyde, Annie  
Hatch, Emma Giles Carlile;

Went to school when I was 6 years old at  
the old Rock School House that stood where the  
present Heber 1<sup>st</sup> ward Chapel now stands (325 E 2<sup>nd</sup> N)  
My first teacher is John Aird who is now a medical  
doctor. I also went to school at the old Relief Society  
Hall, one block east of the old Duncan House, where  
Clara Clyde now lives. (90 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> N.). Other teachers  
were E. D. Clyde, O. J. Call, Attewall Wootton. Also  
an old rock school in the 2<sup>nd</sup> ward, across the  
street from John Witt's home. I also went to the  
old rock building known as old Carter Hall, one

Adolphus R Duke

block west from the old John Mc Donald home,  
also 1 block west from the old John Duke home.  
(the John Duke home was on main street + 4<sup>th</sup> north)  
Went to the Central school a big rock building  
(3<sup>rd</sup> So. and main) which burned up a few years  
ago, here I graduated from the eighth grade  
under Henry M. Aird, one of the best if not the  
best Teacher I ever had. The following graduated  
with me Thomas Todd, Jensen, Lafayette Giles,  
Dr. H. Ray Hatch, Ada Cummings, Ruth Hicken Dickson,  
Lacy Band Duke, Gladys Mc Mullen Davis (Deceased)  
Verna Murdock

I went to the Brigham Young Academy, in Provo now  
B.Y.U., in 1903, I went there for 5 consecutive years  
which I enjoyed very much. Studied some Orchestra  
and Band music, also mathematics and Engineering.  
I played Eb Alto in the B.Y.U. Band for 3 or 4 years  
under professor Albert Miller, a very capable musician.  
The 2<sup>nd</sup> year I began to play Trombone and got a  
job playing in the Heber Orchestra which consisted  
at that time of Andrew G. Anderson (violin), Ray  
Hatch, (Clarinet), Clyde Willis (Cornet), Roe Duke  
(piano), A. R. Duke (trombone). I had only been  
playing Trombone about 6 weeks when I got the  
job, which was a help to me because I came  
home every Friday to play to the dances, then held  
in the Turner Hall, now the Turner Garage, (on  
about 235 N. Main.) I made enough money playing  
to dances to keep me in School for 3 years. Of  
course I did not spend very much, but we  
batched and got along fine. I had as much money  
in the spring when school was out as I did



in the fall when it started.

I had many pleasant times at the B.Y.U., Being in the Brass Band we got to go on trips around the state on athletic meets. I remember going to Salt Lake several times, and to Ogden and Logan.

I graduated from B.Y.U. High School in June 1906.

I also played French Horn in Prof Miller's Orchestra for two or three years. We played to all the shows in Provo Opera House for 2 years which I enjoyed very much.

When about 13 years old, Father used to send me and my <sup>younger</sup> brother Pratt to the North Field to grub willows that grew on our land up there, for a month or two during the summer. We were ~~used~~ <sup>noted</sup> to go up there, but for 3 or 4 years we used to go there during the summer. Pratt and I used to drive a team to the field, we had one pony and a big black mare, and it seemed to me we had a runaway nearly every day.

About 1897 Father bought Claims on land three miles south and East of Heber. It was school land and in about four or five ~~for~~ years Claims on 160 acres, and when the state sold the land he bought it for about 3<sup>00</sup> per acre. He later sold 40 acres to his brother A. Y. Duke.

I worked on the farm with father until about 1910 when the power plant was built, when I began to work in the Electric business. I took a Correspondence

Course in Electrical Engineering, which helped me some. I began by wiring houses with E. Parley, Cliff and Claude Willis. Mr. Cliff had charge of the work for the city, I worked with him a few months then Claude Willis and I bought the city's supplies and began to work for ourselves. We worked about a year when we dissolved partnership and I took over the business. My brother Pratt was with me for a while, until he began Carpentering. I wired more than half the houses in Heber, and many in Midway, Charleston, Daniel and Wallburg. I wired the Heber Mercantile Co. store, the Heber Exchange store, the Wasatch High School, this is the biggest job I have had, Heber 1<sup>st</sup> Ward Chapel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward Chapel, Ideal Picture show, Pikes Peak Garage, Jensen Hotel, Jeffs Hotel, Kettley school.

I was baptized when 8 years old. I was baptized in Spring Creek about a mile west of the Heber Depot, in what is now Joseph Anderson's pasture. Father was on a mission at the time, and I went with Roger Horrocks who was taking his son David to be baptized. We went in his wagon to the stream, some people had buggies to ride in them, but most people used a wagon. Baptized 16 Aug. 1891 by W<sup>m</sup> McMillan

I was ordained a deacon by -

A priest by - Robert Duke 9 Jan 1907

An Elder by - Robert Duke 1 Apr. 1907

A Seventy by -

A High Priest by Apostle Steven L. Richards. April

29, 1917



Superintendent

I served as assistant Supt. of Sunday School to Owen Hylton for a time, Joe Shanks was the other assistant. I was also a Sunday School teacher before that time. I also served as teacher in the Y. M. M. I. A. for a year or so, and was also president of the Y. M. M. I. A. for 2 years, Louis Alexander was one of my Counsellors. I enjoyed working in the Ward M. I. A.. I was also stake secretary of the Y. M. M. I. A. when Anton M. Hansen was stake "president".

In Dec 27, 1916, I went to Los Angeles with a cattle train. I went down to spend a few months in an automobile school, I arrived there Jan. 2, 1917. There was a number of people from here, going to school - Joe Hylton, Archie Davis, Averett Murdock and others. In January 1917 Father was released as bishop of the Heber 1<sup>st</sup> Ward, a position he held for 20 years or more, and George Frank Ryan was selected in his stead. I was chosen as 2<sup>nd</sup> Counsellor, John H. Miller was first Counsellor. I held this position for 6 or 7 years, when Bp. Ryan was released as bishop to become 2<sup>nd</sup> Counsellor in the stake Presidency. About that time I was made an alternate High Council man <sup>and have served on the High Council</sup> up to the present Feb. 1933. I am also serving as Chairman of the Music Committee of the Wasatch Stake at present. I served as ward teacher most of the time for the last 25 years, and am still one. Was ward clerk under Bishop George Stanley for 2 years.

I was appointed Clerk of the Draft Board in 1917 and served until the spring of 1919 when the work

was finished. This was quite an experience for me in these stressing times, was a good place to learn people, see how some would try to find excuses to keep their boy home, and how others wanted their boys to do their share.

I took an examination in the Civil Service of the U. S. - for Rural Free Delivery Carrier in Provo, Jan. 1918, and was appointed carrier on the Charleston, Utah, Route #1, April 17, 1918, which position I still hold, (I retired Dec. 1952)

In about 1904 I began to flirt around with a girl named Crissie Lindsay. I believe the first time I went home with her was from a party at my Grandma Duke's. She was a mighty fine girl and I kept hanging around and she let me, so our friendship grew until it was more than friendship and June 12, 1907 we were married in the Salt Lake Temple by John R. Winder. We had a one day honey-moon, (the day after we were married) in Salt Lake City. We came home June 14 to our little house which was already to live in before we were married. Crissie's father gave her part of his lot, the south side, and her brother Will gave us an old two room house that stood on his land 2 miles east of Heber. We had Andrew Luke move it to the lot, and we built two more rooms on it, so we had 4 nice rooms and a pantry. We thought it was fixed up very nice and we lived in it for 17 years. When we moved into our present home 6 rooms + a bath.

Our children were all born in the old house.



Virginia born Oct. 7, 1908

Kenneth Lindsay Duke - Feb 22, 1912

Lucile

Apr 14, 1915

Maryann

May 3, 1922

They are a mighty fine family of boy and girls, and are all doing exceptionally well, and so far have never given their parents very much worry. All wanted to go to school and were good students, at least average or above. They always went to Sunday School and mutual except Maryann who is not old enough to go to mutual yet. They are all pretty good leaders and have been given responsible positions in the Church and school and Civic organizations. They should be good kids as they have a wonderful Mother who has taught them.

I am very pleased to have my son in the mission field and to know he is doing a very good work, and that I have been privileged to assist in keeping him there, it has been a source of joy and satisfaction to me. It has also been a source of satisfaction to know what the girls have done, even to little Maryann who has given some wonderful talks in Sunday School and other places, on subjects taught in the Sunday School.